

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1 1. A rechargeable battery having a housing comprising at least two cells
2 that can be filled with an electrolyte, the rechargeable battery comprising:
3 a cover having openings provided therein;
4 a degassing system having openings provided therein, the cover and
5 the degassing system arranged such that the openings provided in the cover and the
6 degassing system are located above the cells of the rechargeable battery; and
7 a sealing plug provided in each of the openings, the sealing plug
8 having an upper part and a lower part having a splash basket;
9 wherein the upper part covers the openings on the outside of the cover
10 and the lower part extends in the direction of the cells; and
11 wherein the splash basket surrounds a cavity and has slots distributed
12 over its circumference, the slots continuing as far as a free end of the splash basket.
- 1 2. The rechargeable battery of Claim 1 wherein the sealing plug is
2 integral.
- 1 3. The rechargeable battery of Claim 1 wherein the sealing plug has an
2 opening provided therein and the degassing system is connected to the splash basket
3 via the opening such that the slots form return paths for electrolyte from the degassing
4 system.
- 1 4. The rechargeable battery of Claim 1 further comprising at least one of
2 a state of charge indicator and an acid level indicator attached to the upper part of the
3 sealing plug and passing through the lower part of the sealing plug and the cavity.
- 1 5. The rechargeable battery of Claim 4 wherein the splash basket has a
2 roughened surface.
- 1 6. The rechargeable battery of Claim 4 wherein an acid level indicator is
2 attached to the upper part of the sealing plug and the acid level indicator has a
3 roughened surface.

1 7. The rechargeable battery of Claim 4 wherein a state of charge indicator
2 is attached to the upper part of the sealing plug and the state of charge indicator has a
3 roughened surface.

1 8. The rechargeable battery of Claim 1 wherein the sealing plug is formed
2 from an electrically conductive plastic.

1 9. The rechargeable battery of Claim 8 wherein the free end of the splash
2 basket contacts electrolyte provided in the cells.

1 10. The rechargeable battery of Claim 1 wherein the sealing plug has a seal
2 which is fitted to the upper part of the sealing plug for sealing the cover on the
3 outside.

1 11. A sealing plug for sealing openings which are incorporated above cells
2 in a rechargeable battery, the sealing plug comprising:
3 an upper part; and
4 a lower part which ends in a splash basket, the splash basket having
5 slots provided along its circumference;
6 wherein the slots continue as far as a free end of the splash basket.

1 12. The sealing plug of Claim 11 further comprising a state of charge
2 indicator and electrolyte level indicator provided in the upper part and passing
3 through the splash basket, the and a state of charge indicator and electrolyte level
4 indicator projecting at the free end.